

Appendix D

White King/Lucky Lass Uranium Mines Cleanup Project

Fremont National Forest Lakeview Ranger District (Lake County, Oregon)

Forest Plan Amendment # 22

This non-significant, site-specific amendment to the Fremont National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan) creates a new Management Area 17 – White King/Lucky Lass Uranium Mines CERCLA Remedy.

Emphasis – This MA 17 will emphasize protecting the integrity of the CERCLA Remedy for the White King/Lucky Lass Uranium Mines on the Lakeview Ranger District of the Fremont National Forest. (Section 12 of Final ROD)

Goal – The goal will be to provide institutional controls needed to implement the “Selected Remedy” as discussed in the Record of Decision - White King/Lucky Lass Site. (Section 12 of Final ROD)

Discussion – This MA consists of approximately 240 acres around the White King and Lucky Lass Mines, including the White King pond. Uranium mining activities occurred at the White King and Lucky Lass Mines during the 1950s and 1960s and resulted in current Site conditions, including water-filled excavation pits (ponds) and stockpiled mineralized waste rock/materials. The Site was included on the National Priorities List (NPL) in 1995, and includes both private property and National Forest System land. EPA, with Forest Service concurrence, selected a remedy for the Site pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Recovery Act (CERCLA), 42 U.S. Code 9601 et seq. As discussed in the ROD, the remedy will excavate and consolidate the stockpiled material at the White King Mine, including portions of the stockpile at the Lucky Lass Mine. The consolidated stockpile (referred to as the mine waste repository) will be capped with a two-foot soil and vegetative cover and will be located primarily on National Forest System land. The water-filled excavation pit at the White King Mine, which is also partially located on National Forest System land, will be monitored and in-situ neutralization will be continued to maintain a neutral pH level. White King pond sediments will be monitored and further studied. Institutional controls will also be implemented.

Prescriptions –

Mineral Entry.

Area will be withdrawn from mineral entry. The withdrawal includes 240 acres of federal lands specifically described as:

T. 37 S., R 18 E., WM

Section 25: NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$

T. 37 S., R 19 E., WM

Section 30: NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, and SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$

Due to the anticipated 100-year plus life-cycle of the mine waste repository, it would be expected that the 20 year mineral segregation established by Public Land Order (#6990) would be further extended for additional 20-year periods.

Prohibitions

- Residential structures or use
- Drinking water well drilling
- Any permanent structures
- Permanent recreation sites (e.g. campgrounds) and uses (e.g. swimming in White King pond)
- Removal of stockpiled material
- Agricultural activities
- Any other use that would impact the integrity of mine waste repository and Lucky Lass stockpile, including grazing on stockpiles and off-road vehicle use

Timber Harvest

There is no scheduled timber harvest on these lands. Harvest activities within this 240 acres only be permitted that protect the CERCLA Remedy.

Fire Suppression Needs

Water from the White King and Lucky Lass ponds may be used for fire suppression needs under the following constraints:

- Use of the White King Pond is preferred over the Lucky Lass Pond
- Water should only be removed from the deepest portions of the ponds
- Care should be taken to avoid disturbing pond sediments when removing water from the pond(s)

Access

Access will be restricted by the presence of a fence or other physical barrier surrounding the White King pond and mine waste repository in order to prevent exposure to and disruption or use of the stockpiled materials and White King pond sediments. As discussed in the ROD, access restrictions at the White King pond may be eliminated in the future depending on success of neutralization and actions to address the risks associated with the pond sediments while access restrictions at the Lucky Lass stockpile will be short-term only lasting until completion of the remedial action. The fence should have gates that can be locked at all times. Warning signs will be posted every 200 feet along the fence/barrier stating the hazards, who to contact, and advising people not to remove or disturb any of the stockpiled material.

Adjacent Property Owners

The adjacent property owners will be contacted annually to discuss the land use restrictions and potential future uses or property transactions that could affect this management area.

Determination that the Forest Plan Amendment is Not Significant Under National Forest Management Act (NFMA)

I have determined that this is not a significant Forest Plan amendment under the NFMA implementing regulations [36 CFR 219.10(f)]. The following factors from Forest Service Handbook (FSH) 1909.12 were considered in this determination

Timing - *Identify when the change is to take place. Determine whether the change is necessary during or after the plan period (the first decade) or whether the change is to take place after the next scheduled revision of the forest plan. In most cases, the later the change, the less likely it is to be significant for the current forest plan. If the change is to take place outside the plan period, forest plan amendment is not required.*

This amendment is to be implemented immediately and will be necessary for the life of the remedy --- 100 plus years. This duration is needed to provide the institutional controls to implement the “selected remedy”.

Location and Size - *Determine the location and size of the area involved in the change. Define the relationship of the affected area to the overall planning area. In most cases, the smaller the area affected, the less likely the change is to be a significant change in the forest plan.*

This amendment only affects 240 acres out of the total forest acreage 1,198,301 acres. This is only approximately 0.02 per cent of the Fremont National Forest. (See attached Map from the Environmental Assessment for the Addition to the White King and Lucky Lass Uranium Mines Mineral Withdrawal, dated March 2001).

Goals, Objectives, and Outputs - *Determine whether the change alters long-term relationships between the levels of goods and services projected by the forest plan. Consider whether an increase in one type of output would trigger an increase or decrease in another. Determine whether there is a demand for goods or services not discussed in the forest plan. In most cases, changes in outputs are not likely to be a significant change in the forest plan unless the change would forego the opportunity to achieve an output in later years.*

Because the project specific area is small (240 acres) relative to the total forest acres, the long-term relationships between the levels of goods and services will not be changed.

Management Prescription - *Determine whether the change in a management prescription is only for a specific situation or whether it would apply to future decisions throughout the planning area. Determine whether or not the change alters the desired future condition of the land and resources or the anticipated goods and services to be produced.*

The management prescription is only for the 240 acres. These prescriptions applied to this localized area will not affect anticipated forest wide goods and services to be produced.

White King and Lucky Lass Uranium Mines Mineral Withdrawal

Fremont National Forest - Lake County, Oregon

